

New Hampshire's Private Well Initiative

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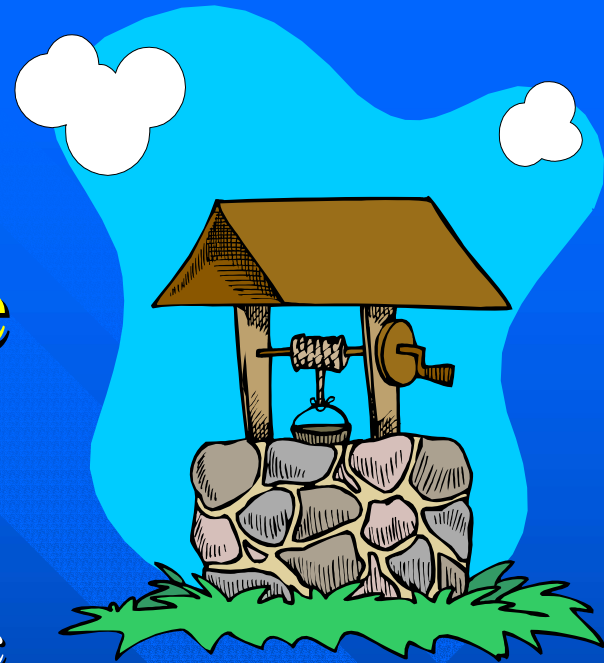
NH Dept. of Environmental Services



Regulation of Private Wells in New Hampshire

■ Well siting

- Approved at same time as septic system by DES's Subsurface Systems Bureau.
- 75' protective radius from property boundaries and septic systems.
- Must be constructed by a licensed well driller.



Regulation of Private Wells in New Hampshire

■ Water quantity

- No State mandated minimum flow rate.
- DES/Water Well Board recommends:
 - » Minimum of 600 gallons within 2 hours at least once a day (5 gpm for 2 hours).
 - » Optimum of 960 gallons within 4 hours at least once a day (4 gpm for 4 hours).
 - » Lenders may also have specific requirements.
- International Plumbing Code requires water of sufficient quantity and pressure to supply particular fixtures.

Regulation of Private Wells in New Hampshire

■ Water quality

- No State mandated testing requirements or quality standards.
- Individual municipalities or lenders may have testing requirements for occupancy permitting, building approval, or finance approval.
- DES is in the midst of an educational campaign to raise the awareness of private well owners.
- DES recommends testing for a minimum of fourteen parameters on a regular basis.

Recommended Testing List

- Arsenic*
- Bacteria*
- Chloride
- Copper*
- Fluoride*
- Hardness
- Iron
- Lead*
- Manganese
- Nitrate/Nitrite*
- pH
- Sodium
- Radon (Radiological Analysis)*
- Volatile Organic Compounds*

**Protect Your
Family**

**Test Your Well's
Water Quality Today**



**A Guide to Water Quality
Testing for Private Wells**



Municipalities Can Help Protect Private Wells and Public Health

- Local ordinances
 - Specify requirements for quantity and/or quality of water prior to approval of building plans or occupancy.
- Water quality database and mapping.
- Sponsor testing days.
- Educational documents and workshops.

NH Department of Environmental Services

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